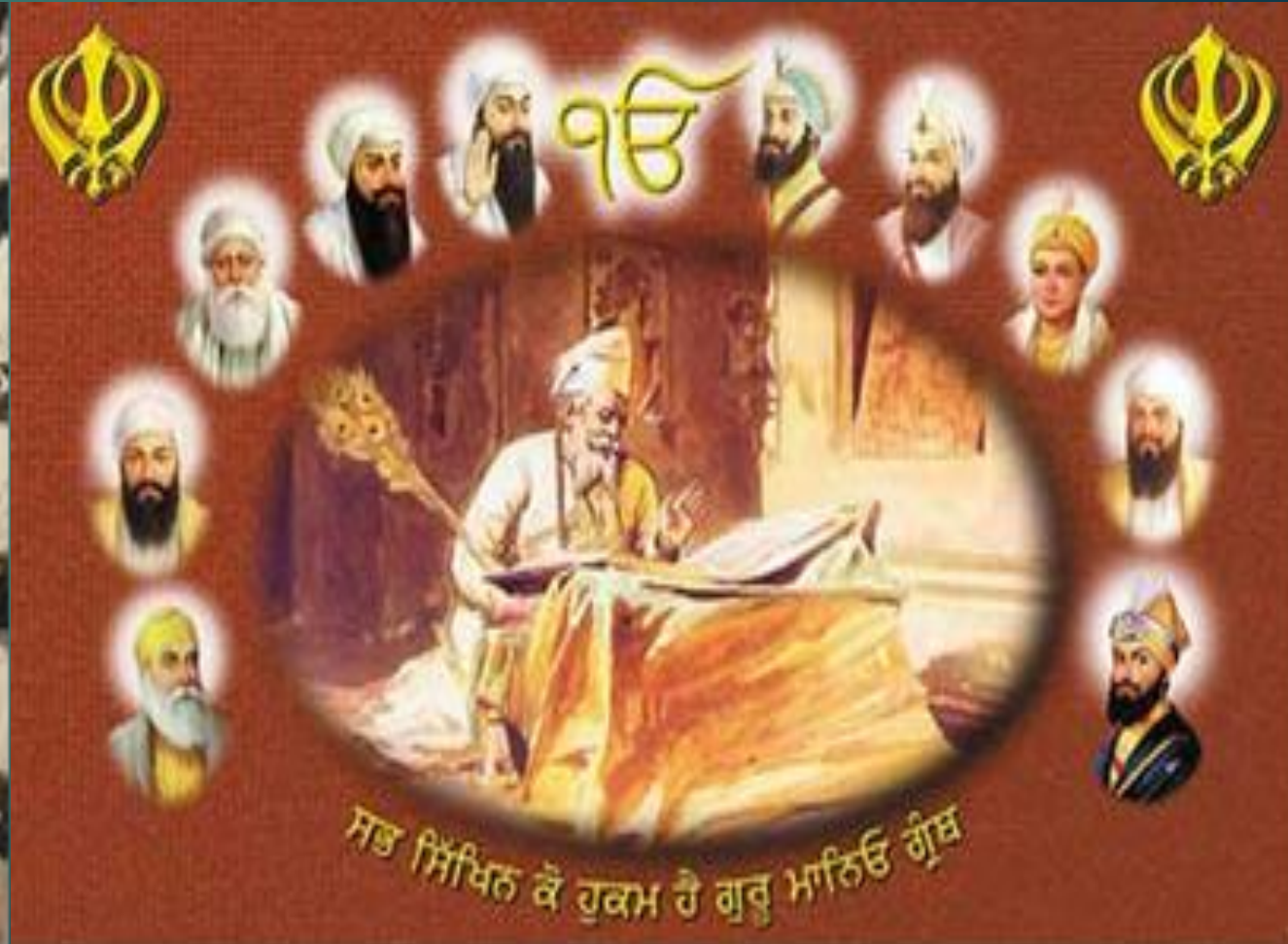




Chapter 7 Confucianism and Sikhism



Key Points:

- ▶ Role in Thai Society: Unlike Buddhism, Christianity, or Islam, Confucianism and Sikhism are primarily influential within specific ethnic groups (Chinese and Indian descendants).
- ▶ Objective: To study their teachings and practices to promote harmonious coexistence in a multicultural society.
- ▶ Focus: Confucianism as the core identity and cultural backbone of the Chinese people.



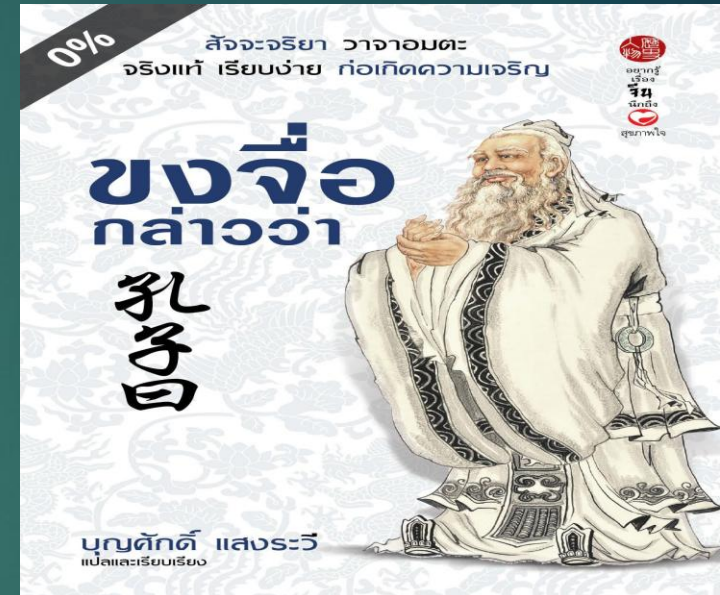
https://www.sarakadee.com/2023/10/10/confucius/#google_vignette



Meaning and Etymology



- ▶ Etymology:
- ▶ "Kong": The family name.
- ▶ "Zi": Means Teacher, Master, or Scholar.
- ▶ Meaning: "The Great Master of the Kong family."
- ▶ Terminology:
- ▶ Latin/English: Confucius.
- ▶ Mandarin: Kong Fuzi / Teochew: Khong Hu Chue.
- ▶ Western Perspective: Initially viewed as a philosophy/ideology ("Confucianism"), but now recognized as a religion.
- ▶ Chinese Term: "Yu-jia" (School of Scholars). Followers are called "Yu-jie" (Scholars or Sages).



Historical Context (The Warring States)



- ▶ Era: Late Zhou Dynasty (6th–5th Century B.C.).
- ▶ The Spring and Autumn Period: A time of constant warfare, political chaos, and moral decay.
- ▶ Different Solutions:
- ▶ Laozi (Taoism): Advised people to abandon society and return to the peace of nature (The Tao).
- ▶ Confucius: Believed the solution lay in human virtue, social order, and the restoration of ancient traditions.



Evolution into a Religion

- ▶ From Philosophy to Faith: During his lifetime, Confucius' teachings were ethical and political.
- ▶ Mencius (Mengzi): A key disciple who expanded and spread the teachings, gaining favor during the Han Dynasty.
- ▶ Neo-Confucianism: Developed during the Song Dynasty (Li-xue), integrating elements of Buddhism and Taoism to form a complete religious system.
- ▶ Classification: A "Humanistic Religion" focused on life in this world rather than the afterlife.



Biography of the Prophet (Confucius)



- ▶ Early Life: Born into a noble but impoverished family. He was a self-taught polymath in literature, politics, and music.
- ▶ The Journey of Life:
- ▶ Age 15: Dedicated to learning.
- ▶ Age 30: Established in virtue and knowledge.
- ▶ Age 50: Deeply understood the "Will of Heaven" (Tian).
- ▶ The Educator: Opened a private school for all social classes. He had over 3,000 disciples.



The Five Classics (Wujing)

- ▶ Ancient Chinese wisdom compiled and edited by Confucius:
- ▶ 1. Classic of Changes (I Ching): Metaphysics and divination.
- ▶ 2. Classic of History (Shujing): Historical records and political science.
- ▶ 3. Classic of Poetry (Shijing): 305 poems and folk songs on morality.
- ▶ 4. Book of Rites (Liji): Records of social etiquette and rituals.
- ▶ 5. Spring and Autumn Annals (Chunqiu): Chronicles of the State of Lu emphasizing the morality of rulers.



The Four Books (Sishu)



- ▶ Core texts written by Confucius and his disciples:
- ▶ 1. Analects (Lunyu): Conversations and daily conduct of Confucius (The most important book).
- ▶ 2. Great Learning (Daxue): Focuses on self-cultivation and ethics for rulers.
- ▶ 3. Doctrine of the Mean (Zhongyong): The practice of moderation and appropriateness.
- ▶ 4. Mencius: The teachings of Mencius focusing on the innate goodness of humanity.



Religious Personnel and Institutions



- ▶ Personnel: No formal priesthood. It emphasizes domestic life and social service.
- ▶ State Level: Rituals performed by government officials.
- ▶ Social Level: Rituals performed by heads of households.
- ▶ Institutions: "Confucius Temples" (Wen-miao) or Chinese Shrines.
- ▶ Atmosphere: More like a memorial hall than a temple for gods.
- ▶ Features: Statues or "Spirit Tablets" of Confucius and his four great disciples.



Rituals and Ceremonies



- ▶ Philosophy of Ritual: Restoring order and inner peace through correct conduct.
- ▶ Key Rituals:
 - ▶ 1. Veneration of Confucius: Held annually on September 28th (Teacher's Day).
 - ▶ 2. Worship of Nature: Heaven, Earth, Sun, and Moon (State ceremonies).
 - ▶ 3. Ancestor Worship: The most vital ritual, expressing gratitude (Filial Piety) to parents and ancestors.



Core Teachings (1) – The Five Virtues



- ▶ Confucius taught that virtue is the "backbone of life":
- ▶ 1. Ren: Humaneness/Benevolence.
- ▶ 2. Yi: Righteousness/Justice
- ▶ 3. Li: Propriety/Etiquette.
- ▶ 4. Zhi: Wisdom.
- ▶ 5. Xin: Integrity/Trustworthiness.
- ▶ The Golden Rule (Shu): "Do not do to others what you do not want done to yourself."



Core Teachings (2) – The Five Relationships



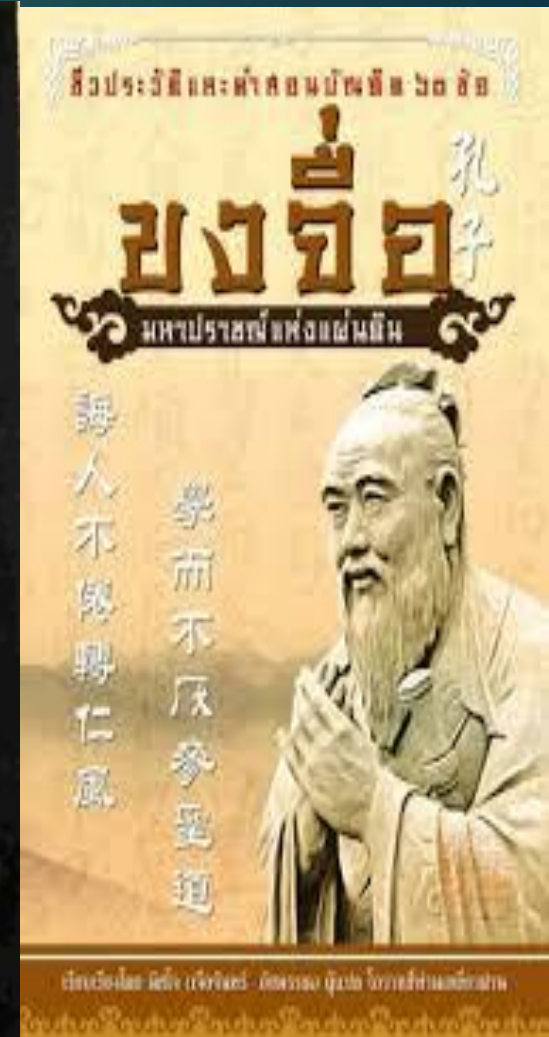
- ▶ To create a stable society, five primary social bonds must be maintained:
- ▶ 1. Ruler – Subject: Benevolence vs. Loyalty.
- ▶ 2. Father – Son: Kindness vs. Filial Piety.
- ▶ 3. Husband – Wife: Love/Protection vs. Devotion/Duty.
- ▶ 4. Elder – Younger: Guidance vs. Respect.
- ▶ 5. Friend – Friend: Sincerity and Trust.



The Ultimate Goal



- ▶ In This World: To achieve a "Great Unity" where all humans are brothers and sisters, living in a peaceful, moral society.
- ▶ The Afterlife:
- ▶ Confucius prioritized life: "If you do not know about life, how can you know about death?"
- ▶ However, as a religion, it believes that those who cultivate virtue will reach "Tian" (Heaven).
- ▶ Belief: Human nature is inherently good, and following one's conscience is following the Will of Heaven.



Summary and Conclusion



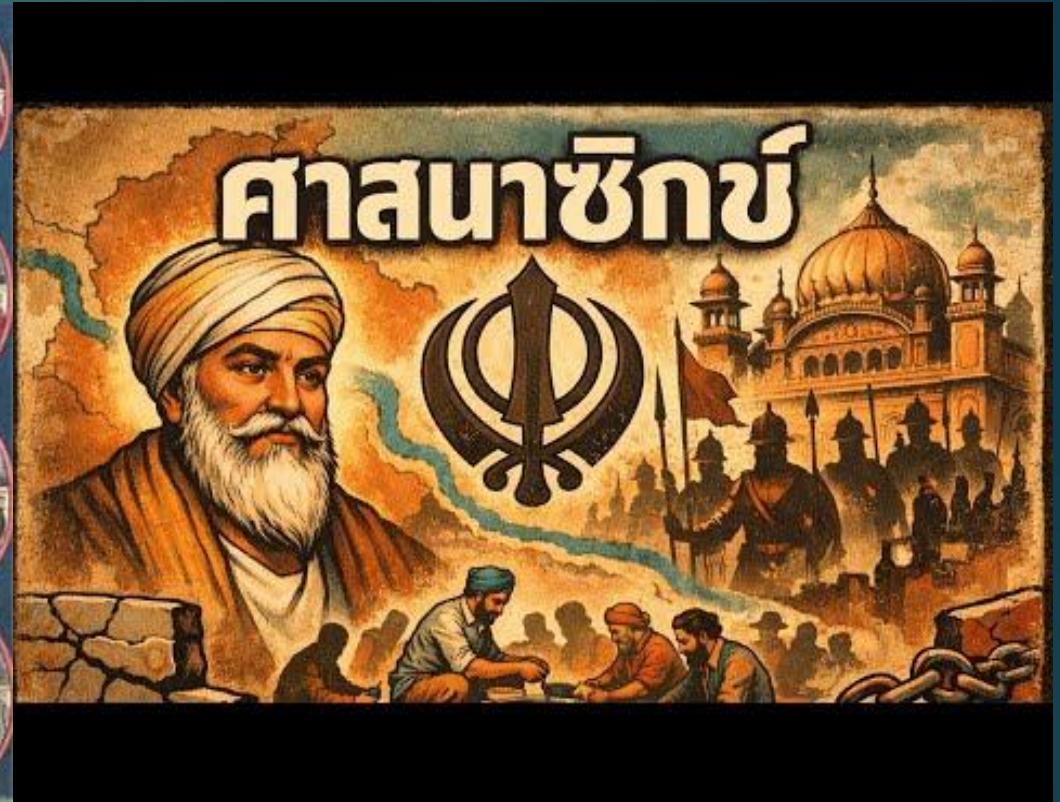
- ▶ Confucianism is a religion of duty, virtue, and social harmony.
- ▶ It remains the cultural foundation for the Chinese diaspora in Thailand.
- ▶ Key Takeaway: Developing the self into a "Superior Man" (Junzi) leads to a better society.



Sikhism

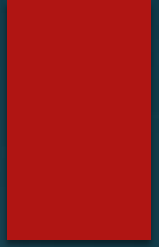


**‘ศาสนาซิกข์’
มีต้นกำเนิดมาจากอินเดีย
และมีคำสอนอย่างไรบ้าง**



<https://www.youtube.com/hashtag/>

Sikhism

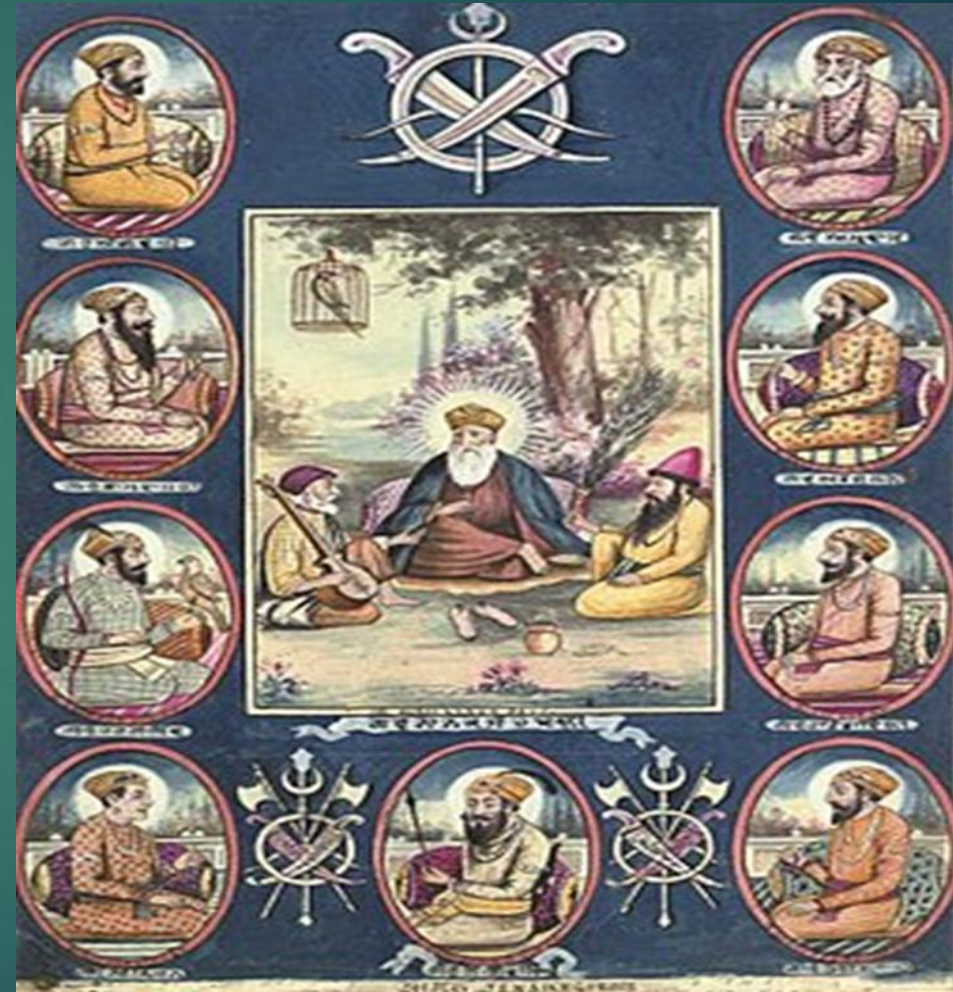


- ▶ Introduction and Significance
- ▶ Headline: Sikhism: The Religion of the Seekers
- ▶ Origins: Founded in Northern India (South Asia); the youngest among the world's major religions
- ▶ Sikhism in Thailand: * One of the five religions officially recognized by the Thai Religious Affairs Department.
- ▶ A long-standing, harmonious relationship with Thai society, participating in major national and royal ceremonies.
- ▶ Objective: To foster understanding of the Thai-Sikh community and their vital role in our multicultural society.



Etymology and Meaning

- ▶ The Word "Sikh": Derived from the Punjabi word for "Sikha" (Pali) or "Shishya" (Sanskrit)
- ▶ Definition: Means "Student," "Disciple," or "Seeker of Knowledge."
- ▶ Naming Uniqueness: Unlike many religions named after their founders, Sikhism is named after the qualities of its followers.
- ▶ Core Identity: A Sikh is one who is a disciple of the Gurus, dedicated to learning and strictly following the religious codes (Sikkha).



Historical Context (14th–15th Century)

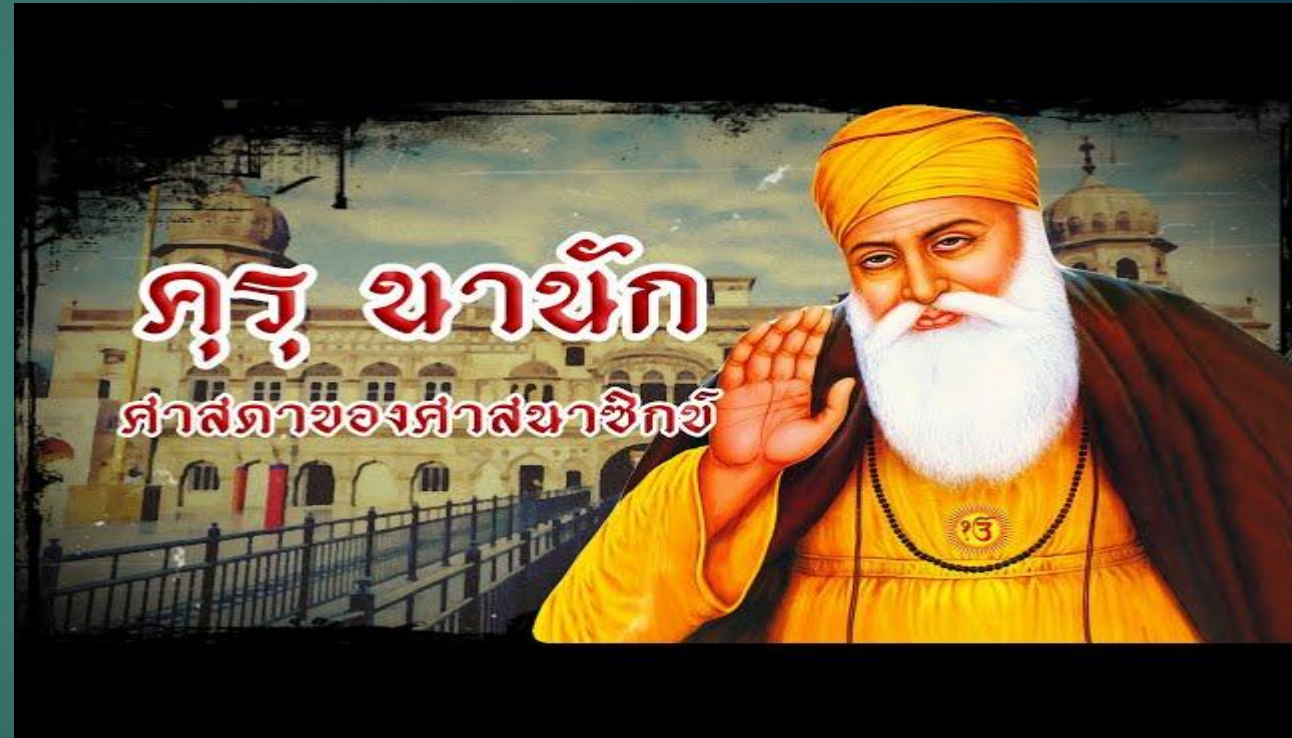
- ▶ The Era of Turmoil: Emerged during the Mughal occupation of India.
- ▶ Social Conflict: A period of intense friction between Hinduism and Islam, ranging from cultural exchange to violent clashes.
- ▶ Cultural Fusion: Despite conflicts, Islam introduced new arts, music, and the concept of "Brotherhood," which helped relax the rigid Hindu caste system.
- ▶ The Catalyst: Political oppression and religious persecution led Guru Nanak to seek a path of reconciliation and peace.



ภาพที่ คุรุนานักพยายามประสานความขัดแย้ง
ที่มา : สมาคมไทยซิกข์แห่งประเทศไทย, ม.ป.ป.

The Birth of Sikhism

- ▶ Guru Nanak's Vision: He taught that "Truth is One."
- ▶ Famous Proclamation: "There is no Hindu, there is no Muslim; only the One God for all humanity."
- ▶ A Religion of Courage: Born from the need for political and spiritual liberation. It is often viewed as a religion of "Warrior-Saints" who sacrifice for justice.
- ▶ Unity: Guru Nanak was respected by both Hindus (as a Guru) and Muslims (as a Pir).



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v7PD5r0HH8I>



The 10 Gurus (Part 1: The Founders)

- ▶ 1. Guru Nanak: The First Guru and Founder. Received the divine calling to clean the world and teach devotion.
- ▶ 2. Guru Angad: Developed the "Gurmukhi" script; established the Langar (community kitchen) to abolish caste distinctions.
- ▶ 3. Guru Amar Das: Social reformer; championed women's rights and abolished the practice of Sati (widow burning).
- ▶ 4. Guru Ram Das: Founded the city of Amritsar and the foundation of the Holy Tank.
- ▶ 5. Guru Arjan: Built the Golden Temple (Harmandir Sahib) and compiled the first Sikh scripture (Adi Granth). He was the first martyr.



<https://th.wikipedia.org/wiki>

The 10 Gurus (Part 2: The Protectors)



- ▶ 6. Guru Hargobind: Introduced the two swords (Miri and Piri), representing temporal and spiritual power.
- ▶ 7. Guru Har Rai: Strengthened the Sikh military and missionary work.
- ▶ 8. Guru Har Krishan: The Child Guru; showed great wisdom but died young (age 9).
- ▶ 9. Guru Tegh Bahadur: Executed by the Mughal Emperor for refusing to convert to Islam, sacrificing himself for religious freedom.
- ▶ 10. Guru Gobind Singh: Created the Khalsa (the pure), established the "5 Ks," and declared the Guru Granth Sahib as the Eternal Guru.



<https://thmanoon1995.wordpress.com/>

The Holy Scripture (Guru Granth Sahib)



- ▶ Meaning: "Granth" (Scripture) and "Sahib" (Master).
- ▶ Eternal Guru: Since the 10th Guru, the scripture is treated as the living, eternal Guru of the Sikhs.
- ▶ Content: A compilation of 29,480 hymns in 6 different languages, including Punjabi, Persian, and Hindi.
- ▶ Inclusive Philosophy: Contains the writings of the Gurus as well as Hindu and Muslim saints who realized the Universal Truth.



ภาพที่ คู่มือศาสนศาสตร์ที่ ๕ บันทึกคัมภีร์
ที่มา : สมาคมไทยซิกข์แห่งประเทศไทย, ม.ป.ป.

Religious Personnel and Places

- ▶ No Priesthood: Like Islam, Sikhism has no ordained clergy. Every Sikh is equal.
- ▶ Granthi: A person who reads the scripture and leads ceremonies.
- ▶ Raghi: Musicians who sing the hymns (Kirtan).
- ▶ The Gurdwara: "The Door to the Guru."
- ▶ The Golden Temple: The spiritual center in Amritsar, India.
- ▶ In Thailand: The Sri Guru Singh Sabha Temple (Phra Nakhon, Bangkok) is the heart of the Thai-Sikh community.



ภาพที่ ผู้นำสวดภาวนา
ที่มา : สมาคมไทยสิกข์แห่งประเทศไทย, ม.ป.ป.



<https://culturio.sac.or.th/content/1261>

Rituals and the "5 Ks"

- ▶ Amrit Sanskar: The initiation ceremony. Men take the name "Singh" (Lion) and women "Kaur" (Princess).
- ▶ The 5 Identifiers (The 5 Ks):
 - ▶ 1. Kesh: Uncut hair (God's will).
 - ▶ 2. Kangha: A wooden comb (Cleanliness).
 - ▶ 3. Kara: An iron bracelet (Bond with God).
 - ▶ 4. Kachera: Cotton undergarments (Self-control).
 - ▶ 5. Kirpan: A small sword/dagger (Defense of the weak).
- ▶ Four Prohibitions: No cutting hair, no ritualistically slaughtered meat, no adultery, and no intoxicants (tobacco/alcohol).



ภาพที่ ก ทั้งห้า

ที่มา : ปวินท์ มินทอง, ๒๕๕๔



Core Teachings - The Nature of God



- ▶ Akal Purakh (Waheguru): Belief in only one, eternal, and all-pervading God.
- ▶ Universal Mercy: God is not a judge looking to punish, but a source of mercy and truth.
- ▶ The Four Pillars:
 - ▶ 1. Unity (Samakkhi)
 - ▶ 2. Equality (Samerphak)
 - ▶ 3. Faith (Srattha)
 - ▶ 4. Devotion/Love (Phakdi)
- ▶ Internal Enemies: Man must conquer five inner thieves: Lust, Anger, Greed, Attachment, and Pride (Ego).



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dqFfULn-f3M>

